

DROUGHT PRESCRIBED GRAZING ON WRP

Indiana WRP Drought Grazing (528) Plan - Job Sheet

PURPOSE

To provide grazing for a limited time period on eligible Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) areas for livestock producers in need of forage for feed due to drought conditions and to improve the overall habitat.

Participants must request a Compatible Use Authorization (CUA) for emergency grazing of WRP acreage from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) prior to grazing and follow this plan. Participants may not graze and hay the same acreage. Harvest vegetation "as is"; no manipulation (i.e. spraying) will be allowed.

CUAs will only be granted on areas planted to grasses. Areas planted to trees or areas of natural regeneration will be excluded.

This plan is limited to the following period:

08/02/12 to **9/30/2012**

WRP Contract #: **123**

Farm Number: **1234**

Tract Number: **1000**

Field Number(s): **1-5**

Total Acreage: **100**

Maximum to be grazed: **75**

Grazing Producer: **John Brown**

WRP Owner: **Sara Brown**



Livestock will not be permitted to graze WRP ground that is within 120 feet of any stream or permanent waterbody. Ineligible areas include any field that is not established such as cool season grasses planted last fall and warm season grasses planted in the last 3 years.

On newly acquired easements, grazing will be used in preparation for a Warm Season Grass planting.

Fencing and watering facilities are the sole responsibility of the landowner/producer and capable of maintaining livestock. Drinking water should be provided to livestock within 1200 feet of any area that is being grazed.

Any fencing and watering facilities installed must be temporary in nature and removed within 10 days of livestock removal.

Producers should insure that the grazing acres do not contain poisonous plants prior to being grazed.

Twenty-five (25) percent of each field or contiguous WRP fields shall be left ungrazed for wildlife use.

For this tract, approximately **75** acres will be utilized for grazing and **25** acres will be left for use by wildlife. It would be advantageous for the 25% left for wildlife to be left in a block or a corridor at least **50** feet wide. See attached plan map for areas to be grazed and left for wildlife.

The actual minimum height that the forage is allowed to be grazed down to will be six (6) inches for cool season grasses (orchard, fescue, smooth brome and any combination of them), and twelve (12) inches for warm season grasses (big bluestem, little bluestem, indiagrass, switchgrass and any combination of them). This is not the average, but the minimum grazing height allowed for 80% or more of the grazing portion.

Grazing will stop on September 30th or when the minimum grazing heights have been reached, whichever occurs first. Livestock may still be on location, confined, up to an additional ten days if needed to get them loaded and moved.

I have reviewed this Conservation Plan modification and agree to follow the specifications.

Signature: _____
 Producer

Date: _____

Signature: _____
 NRCS District Conservationist

Date: _____

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